

Message Text

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16

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 NEA-14 ACDA-19 SAJ-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01 DRC-01

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R 150935Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4728

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

CINCLANT

COMICEDEFOR

LIMITED OFFICIAL REYKJAVIK 1111

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PINT IC

SUBJECT: INDEPENDENCE PARTY ACCEPTS JOHANNESSEN GOVT
FORMATION BID

REF: REYKJAVIK 1101

1. INDEPENDENCE PARTY HAS ACCEPTED PP CHAIRMAN OLAFUR
JOHANNESSEN'S OFFER (REFTEL) TO DISCUSS FORMATION OF NEW
GOVERNMENT. TALKS BETWEEN LEADERS OF TWO PARTIES
WERE TO BEGIN TODAY. ASKED WHO WOULD BECOME PRIME
MINISTER IN EVENT OF IP-PP COALITION, IP CHAIRMAN GEIR
HALLGRIMSSON SAID HE WAS CONFIDENT SOMETHING WOULD BE
WORKED OUT ONCE AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON POLICY MATTERS.

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2. IP ALTHING MEMBER TOLD EMBOFF TODAY THAT HIS PARTY ENTERS TALKS WITH SINCERE HOPE OF COOPERATING WITH PP IN EFFECTIVE, DURABLE COALITION. GIVEN SEVERITY OF ECONOMIC PROBLEMS AND PUBLICS IMPATIENCE WITH CONTINUED GOVT INACTION, HE PREDICTED EARLY CONCLUSION OF DISCUSSIONS, PERHAPS BY WEEKEND. AS TO PRIME MINISTERIAL POST, HE SAID IP, AS LARGEST PARTY AND WINNER IN JUNE ELECTION, HAD STRONG CLAIM, ALTHOUGH SOME IN IP (AND ONLY SOME, HE STRESSED) WOULD YIELD POST TO JOHANNESSON IF THIS BECAME PP CONDITION FOR FORMING GOVERNMENT AND IF IP WERE COMPENSATED WITH SUITABLE OTHER PORTFOLIOS. IN EVENT OF STALEMATE ON THE QUESTION, HE SAID, SDP CHAIRMAN GYLFI GISLASON MIGHT BE OFFERED PRIME MINISTERSHIP.
IRVING

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To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005